



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

June 6, 2014

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To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "W. T. Fujioka", with a stylized flourish at the end.

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE ON FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2015 COMMERCE- JUSTICE-SCIENCE APPROPRIATIONS LEGISLATION

This memorandum is to provide the Board with an update comparing the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS) appropriations bill (S.2437) which was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee on June 5, 2014 with the version (H.R. 4660) which was passed by the House on May 30, 2014.

Comparison of the Senate and House FFY 2015 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations Bills

The Senate and House FFY 2015 CJS appropriations bills both decrease overall discretionary funding by \$398 million to \$51.2 billion, but differ in how funds are distributed among individual programs and activities. Below is a comparison of funding levels for programs of County interest in the Senate and House FFY 2015 CJS appropriations bills:

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP): Funding is decreased from \$180 million in FFY 2014 to \$150 million in FFY 2015 in the Senate bill, but is increased to \$210 million in the House bill. Over the years, the Senate often has appropriated less funds for SCAAP than the House because SCAAP lacks broad-based support among Senators due to the fact that most SCAAP funds go to a few states. In fact, in FFY 2013, California, which is represented by Senator Feinstein on the Appropriations Committee, received \$47 million more SCAAP funds than the combined total for all of the other 26 states with Senators who serve on the Committee.

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Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG): Funding for JAG formula grants is decreased from \$345.00 million in FFY 2014 to \$340.00 million in FFY 2015 in the Senate bill, but is increased to \$352.75 million in the House bill.

Trafficking Victim Services: Funding for trafficking victim services and activities is increased from \$14.275 million in FFY 2014 to \$15.000 million in FFY 2015 in the Senate bill and \$45.365 million in the House bill. The Senate Appropriations Committee included bill and report language that allows this appropriation to be used to assist child sex trafficking victims through programs authorized under the Violence Against Women Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4). However, Senate Committee report language also provides that at least \$7 million of the \$15 million shall be used for victim services for foreign national victims of trafficking, which would limit available funds to assist domestic child sex trafficking victims. The House Appropriations Committee did not include comparable report language specifying how much funds should be used to assist foreign nationals.

Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Grants: Funding for COPS Hiring Grants is slightly increased from \$180.0 million in FFY 2014 to \$180.500 million in FFY 2015 in the Senate bill, but is kept at \$180.0 million in the House bill.

DNA Analysis and Forensic Programs: The Senate and House bills both fund these programs at the same level (\$125 million) as in FFY 2014.

National Instant Criminal Background Check System: The Senate bill funds this system at the same level (\$58.5 million) as in FFY 2014 while the House bill increases its funding to \$78.0 million for grants to states to upgrade criminal and mental health records in the system.

Juvenile Justice: Funding for juvenile justice services and grants is increased from \$254.5 million in FFY 2014 to \$257.5 million in FFY 2015 in the Senate bill, but is decreased to \$223.5 million in the House bill.

John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program: The Senate bill funds this program, which assists prosecutors and public defenders to repay student loans, at the same level (\$2 million) as in FFY 2014 while it is not funded in the House bill.

Similar to recent years, both bills include language authorizing the Department of Justice (DOJ) to reprogram up to 10 percent of the total appropriation for any state and local law enforcement activity (including SCAAP) to other activities. This authority is problematic because the Obama Administration supports the termination of SCAAP. Moreover, in FFYs 2012 and 2013, DOJ used this authority to transfer

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10 percent of total SCAAP appropriations (roughly \$24.0 million each year) to other programs and activities. The House, but not the Senate, bill includes language which would deny Federal assistance, such as SCAAP and JAG, to state or local governments with laws, policies, or procedures that contravene Federal laws relating to the immigration, deportation, or removal of aliens. This policy is aimed at jurisdictions that do not cooperate with the Federal government in identifying, detaining, or removing criminal aliens.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA
MR:MT:ma

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist